

Message Text

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43/17

ORIGIN NEA-12

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66605

DRAFTED BY: NEA/INS:DKUX

APPROVED BY: NEA/INS:LBLAINGEN

L/NEA:ATBROWN

SCS:WFINNEGAN (INFO)

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R 222216Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058255

C O R R E C T E D COPY (OMISSION LINE IN PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (OFTEDAL, OLAF)

SUBJ: ANANDA MARG

1. U.S. ANANDA MARG MEMBER OLAF OFTEDAL (PHD STUDENT AT MIT AND SON OF NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA) HAS TALKED WITH DEPT OFFS FROM L AND INS ABOUT CURRENT ANANDA MARG EFFORTS TO GAIN RELEASE OF SRI SRI ANANDAMURTI. BRITISH M.P. JOHN WELLS IS GOING TO INDIA ON BEHALF OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO SEE WHETHER CASE MERTIS SUPPORT OF ORGANIZATION. ANANDA MARG ALSO CONSIDERING TRYING TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENT WITH GOI TO RELEASE LEADER ON UNDERSTANDING HE WILL LEAVE INDIA FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT ABORAD, PROBABLY IN BOSTON WHERE OFTEDAL SAYS HE HAS ARRANGED FOR FREE MEDICAL CARE.

2. DEPENDING ON WHAT WELLS REPORTS, OFTEDAL MAY RETURN TO INDIA. HE DOES NOT PLANT TO ASK ANYTHING FROM EMBASSY, BUT MAY CHECK IN AT SOME POINT. HE RECOGNIZES THAT BECAUSE OF HIS EFFORTS LAST YEAR IN INDIA TO STIR
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PUBLICITY FOR ANANDA MARG, HE MAY HAVE TROUBLE WITH GOI.

DEPT OFFS AGREED AND URGED
CAUTION ON PART OFTEDAL, RECALLING HIS FATHER'S REQUEST
FOR HELP IN GETTING HIM OUT OF INDIA YEAR AGO. (OFTEDAL'S
MOTHER IS AMERICAN AND HE IS AMCIT. KISSINGER

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